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JUN 02 2004

Attorney Docket No. P64053US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Brigitte FALCONNIER

Via Facsimile
703-872-9306

Application No.: 09/423,665

Art Unit: 1761

Filed: November 22, 1999

Examiner: Curtis Edward SHERRER

For: NOVEL CLEAR BEVERAGE OPTIONALLY ALCOHOLIC CONTAINING ANETHOL
AND CLOUDY DILUTED BEVERAGE OBTAINED BY DILUTION**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND
REQUEST FOR PARTIAL REFUND OF EXTENSION FEE**Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OFFICIAL

Sir:

Petition is made, by facsimile, for a three-month extension of time for response pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). The \$950.00 fee is attached. If this fee is inaccurate, please debit or credit the requisite amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

The instant petition is filed without prejudice to Applicant's rights in connection with Applicant's paper filed April 2, 2004, requesting reconsideration of the finality of the Office Action mailed December 2, 2003, and the refusal to enter the after-final amendment, filed December 31, 2001, as requested in the continued prosecution application (CPA) filed February 28, 2002, and requesting, accordingly, a new Office Action reflecting examination of the claims as so amended.

No official action on the aforesaid request for reconsideration has been received. However, Applicant's undersigned representative was informed – during a telephone discussion with Examiner Milton I. Cano on June 2, 2004, confirmed in a paper that the Examiner sent by facsimile on June 2, 2004 – that finality of the Office Action would be withdrawn, but the time period for reply would not be restarted and Applicant must reply within the time period set in the final Office Action, which reply must address the grounds of rejection as set forth in the final Office Action. Neither the Examiner, nor the facsimile confirmation subsequently sent by the Examiner, gave any clear

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indication whether the after-final amendment (requested in the CPA, as explained above) would be entered pursuant to Applicant's request for reconsideration.

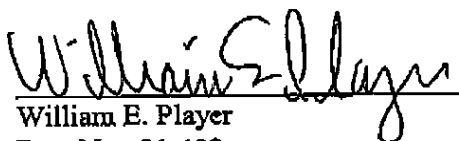
During a subsequent telephone conversation with Examiner Curtis Sherrer on June 2, 2004, Examiner Sherrer informed Applicant's undersigned representative that a Notice of Appeal (or other appropriate after-final paper) would still need to be filed on June 2, 2004, the non-extendable (statutory) deadline for responding to the final Office Action. Although finality of the Office Action would be withdrawn (as explained above), Examiner Sherrer indicated that the withdrawal was not yet *official*, since it had not been mailed.

Accordingly, partial refund of the \$950 extension fee – in the amount of \$530 – is requested. That is, had the request for reconsideration, filed April 2, 2004, been timely acted on, there would have been sufficient time to file the necessary reply to the final Office Action by May 2, 2004, with a two-month extension and the corresponding \$420 extension fee. For the record, Applicant's representatives requested timely action on the request for reconsideration by telephone, *inter alia*, on or about April 27, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

By


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WEP/bap